



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable the House of Assembly

At a meeting of the House of Assembly at the Parliament Buildings on Friday, the 22nd day of August, 2025, at 10.00 o'clock a.m. pursuant to Standing Order 6.9.

PRESENT

- His Honour A. E. Holder, S.C., B.Sc. (Hons.), MSW, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Speaker*)
His Honour N. G. H. Rowe, J.P. (*Deputy Speaker*)
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| Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley, S.C., LL.B. (<i>Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, National Security and the Public Service, CARICOM and the Development Commissions</i>) | Mr. R. A. Thorne, K.C., LL.B., L.E.C., Dip. Theology (<i>Leader of the Opposition</i>) |
| Miss C. Y. Forde, J.P., L.C.P. | Hon. A. R. Forde, Rph. (<i>Minister of Environment and National Beautification, Green and Blue Economy</i>) |
| Hon. D. D. Marshall, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (<i>Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs</i>) (<i>Senior Minister</i>) | Hon. C. McD. Griffith, B.Sc. (<i>Minister of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment</i>) |
| Mr. T. A. Prescod, J.P., B.A. | Mr. P. R. Phillips, J.P. (<i>Chairman of Committees</i>) |
| Hon. K. D. Symmonds, B.A., LL.B. (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade</i>) | Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill (<i>Minister of Tourism and International Transport</i>) |
| Hon. D. G. Sutherland, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A. (Dist.) (<i>Minister of Housing, Lands and Maintenance</i>) | Hon. C. E. Jordan, B.Sc. (Hons.) (<i>Minister of Labour, Social Security and Third Sector</i>) |
| Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (<i>Deputy Prime Minister</i>) (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Transport and Works</i>) (<i>Leader of Government Business</i>) | Dr. S. E. Browne, M.B.B.S. |
| Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid, J.P., B.D.S., F.D.S., F.D.R.C.S., M. Min. (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Planning and Development in the Prime Minister's Office</i>) | Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.P.A. (<i>Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs</i>) |
| Hon. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B. (<i>Minister of Home Affairs and Information</i>) | Hon. Miss K. S. McConney (<i>Minister of Economic Affairs and Investment</i>) |
| Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands, B.A. (Hons.), M.Sc. (<i>Minister of Training and Tertiary Education</i>) | Dr. R. O. Springer, J.P., Ph.D. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Transport and Works</i>) |
| | Hon. D. I. Ishmael, M.B.A., M.Sc. (<i>Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Wellness</i>) |
| | Mr. C. A. Lane, J.P. |
| | Mr. C. D. L. Gibbs |
| | Hon. C. J. Blackman, J.P., LL.B., LL.M., ACI Arb. (<i>Minister of Educational Transformation</i>) |

ABSENT

Hon. I. A. Weir, M.B.A. (*Minister of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security*), Hon. R. R. Straughn, B.Sc., M.Sc. (*Minister in the Ministry of Finance*), Ms. M. K-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc. and Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore, J.P., M.B.A.

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Rev. Canon Mark Harewood.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker read the following:



Hon. Santia Bradshaw, M.P.

Minister of Transport and Works and Leader of Government Business

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BARBADOS

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August 20th, 2025

His Honour Arthur E. Holder, S.C., M.P

Speaker of the House of Assembly

Parliament Buildings

Trafalgar Street

BRIDGETOWN

Your Honour,

The House now stands adjourned until Tuesday, 16th September, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Pursuant to Standing Order No. 6.9 of the Standing Orders of the Honourable the House of Assembly, I hereby submit that the public interest requires that the House should meet on an earlier day than that to which the House stands adjourned in order to concur with the amendments to the Criminal Proceedings (Witness Anonymity) Bill 2025, the Interception of Communication Bill 2025 and the Firearms (Amendment) Bill 2025, made in the Honourable the Senate on Wednesday 20th August, 2025.

Should you be satisfied that the public interest so requires, Government requests that the House should be summoned to meet Friday, August 22nd, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

Government proposes that the business of the House should be that mentioned above.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Santia J.O. Bradshaw, M.P.

Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of Government Business

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MESSAGE

From

THE HONOURABLE THE SENATE

To

THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The Honourable the Senate has the honour to inform the Honourable the House of Assembly that at its sitting on **Wednesday 20th August, 2025** the **Interception of Communication Bill, 2025**, the **Criminal Proceedings (Witness Anonymity) Bill, 2025** and the **Firearms (Amendment) Bill, 2025** were amended in the following terms:

In the **Interception of Communication Bill, 2025**:

In **Clause 5(2)** paragraph (b) was deleted and the subsequent paragraphs (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) were renumbered as paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).

In **Clause 13(2)** the word “*Authority*” was deleted the word “**Commission**” substituted therefor.

In **Clause 14(3)** the word “*Authority*” was deleted the word “**Commission**” substituted therefor.

In **Clause 21(9)** the word “*and*” was deleted in the second place it appears and the word “**or**” was substituted therefor.

In **Clause 24** subclause (5) was deleted and subclause (6) was renumbered as subclause (5).

In **Clause 26(6)** the word “(3)” was deleted and the words “**subsection (5)**” was substituted therefor.

In the **Second Schedule**, paragraph 6(1), the words “*or Chief Executive Officer*” were deleted.

In the **Criminal Proceedings (Witness Anonymity) Bill, 2025**:

The following Clause was inserted after clause 29:

“Amendment to Schedule
29. The Minister may by Order amend the Schedule.”

Clause 29 was renumbered as clause 30.

In the **Firearms (Amendment) Bill, 2025**:

In the definition of “firearm”, paragraph (b) was deleted and the following substituted therefor:

“(b) includes any major component part of a weapon referred to in paragraph (a)(i), (iii), (iv) and (v) specifically designed for use in a firearm including a barrel, slide, frame, hammer, firing pin, auto or automatic sear, sear, trigger, bolt and magazine; but”.

The following Clause was inserted after clause 2:

“Amendment of section 5 of Cap. 179

3. Section 5(4) of the principal Act is deleted and the following substituted:

“(4) A firearm licence shall contain permission for the holder to have in his possession

(a) ammunition of a type, and not exceeding an amount, specified in the licence; and

(b) such parts or accessories as are reasonably necessary for the repair, maintenance or use of the firearm to which the licence applies.”.”.

Clause 3 was renumbered as clause 4.

AND the Honourable the Senate transmits the amended Bills to the Honourable the House of Assembly inviting concurrence in the amendments to the Bills.

Dated the 20th day of August, 2025.


PRESIDENT

ORDERS OF THE DAY
SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams, Standing Orders, 6, 16, 18, 20, 42(5), 43 and 44 were suspended for the remainder of the Sitting.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 1

Resolution that the Honourable the House of Assembly concur in the amendments made by the Honourable the Senate to the Interception of Communications Bill, 2025, the Criminal Proceedings (Witness Anonymity) Bill, 2025 and the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

Hon. D. D. Marshall moved that the Resolution be passed.

Mr. R. A. Thorne began to speak.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Hon. D. D. Marshall spoke on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne resumed his speech.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne withdrew certain remarks and resumed his speech.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Mr. R. A. Thorne concluded his speech.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Sitting was suspended at 11.55 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 1 (resumed)

The motion in relation to the Interception of Communications Bill, 2025 was put the House voting as follows:

Ayes: 24

Noes: 1

Abstentions: Nil

The motion in relation to the Criminal Proceedings (Witness Anonymity) Bill, 2025 and the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, 2025 was put and passed.

Order No. 1 was passed.

REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES (recommitted)

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams, Ms. M. K-A. Caddle was appointed a member of the Committee on Governance and Policy Matters.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Meeting was adjourned.

At 12.15 p.m. Mr. Speaker adjourned the Sitting.

N. R. JONES
Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the _____ day of _____, 2025.

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027

MINUTES

Friday, 22nd August, 2025.